

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-38. (canceled)

39. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid having at least 80% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);
- (e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or
- (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927,

wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is an immunostimulant. ~~activity is capable of stimulating proliferation of T-lymphocytes.~~

40. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 39 having at least 85% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);
- (e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or
- (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927,

wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is an immunostimulant, ~~activity is capable of stimulating proliferation of T lymphocytes.~~

41. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 39 having at least 90% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);
- (e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or
- (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927,

wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is an immunostimulant, ~~activity is capable of stimulating proliferation of T lymphocytes.~~

42. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 39 having at least 95% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);
- (e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or
- (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927,

wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is an immunostimulant, ~~activity is capable of stimulating proliferation of T lymphocytes.~~

43. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 39 having at least 99% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);
- (e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or
- (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927,

wherein the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid is an immunostimulant, ~~activity is capable of stimulating proliferation of T lymphocytes.~~

44. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);
- (d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);
- (e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or
- (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927.

45. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 44 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290).

46. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 44 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290), lacking its associated signal peptide.

47. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 44 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290).

48. (canceled).

49. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 44 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289).

50. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 44 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289).

51. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 44 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927.

52. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes to, under stringent conditions,:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);

(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO 290), lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of (SEQ ID NO: 290);

(d) the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289);

(e) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 289); or

(f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209927,

wherein said polypeptide induces proliferation of stimulated T lymphocytes in a mixed lymphocyte reaction, and

wherein said stringent conditions are hybridization in 50% formamide, 5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5 x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50  $\mu$ g/ml), 0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C, with washes at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC (sodium chloride/sodium citrate) and 50% formamide at 55°C, followed by a high-stringency wash consisting of 0.1 x SSC containing EDTA at 55°C.

53-54. (canceled)

55. (previously presented) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 39:

56. (previously presented) The vector of Claim 55, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

57. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 55.

58. (previously presented) The host cell of Claim 57, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an *E. coli* or a yeast cell.